



## **Maritime and Coastguard Agency**

UK Technical Services Navigation 105 Commercial Road Southampton SO15 1EG

> www.gov.uk/mca 8 December 2025

Your ref: EN010119

National Infrastructure Planning Temple Quay House 2 The Square Bristol, BS1 6PN

By email to: NorthFalls@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam

Application by North Falls Offshore Wind Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the North Falls Offshore Wind Farm.

## **Request for Information**

Thank you for inviting the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) to provide additional information to the Secretary of State as part of the assessment of the proposed generation assets for the North Falls offshore wind farm project. We would like to submit the following response to the below issues:

## SHIPPING AND NAVIGATION

- 3. At Deadline 8, the Applicant submitted REP8-036 in which the Applicant stated that the MCA had agreed to propose the removal of the Galloper Recommended Route ("GRR") at the 2025 Autumn UK Safety of Navigation ("UKSON") Committee session.
- 4. **The Applicant** and the **MCA** are requested to confirm if the removal of the GRR has been raised / or will be raised at the 2025 Autumn UKSON Committee session and provide a timeline detailing when the GRR removal is expected to be approved.

The proposal to remove the Galloper Recommended Route (RR) was presented by MCA to the UK Safety of Navigation Committee (UKSON) meeting held on 16 October 2025. No objections were raised and the committee agreed a submission could be made to the International Maritime Organization (IMO) provided the North Falls offshore wind farm project receives ministerial development consent.

Assuming the North Falls offshore wind farm project receives ministerial development consent, a joint proposal from UK and Belgium (lead by DfT/MCA) will be submitted to the secretariat of the annual Experts Group on Ships Routing at the IMO's sub-committee on Navigation, Communication and Search and Rescue 14 (NCSR) six months in advance of the meeting expected in May/June 2027 (November/December 2026). This is in accordance with the published IMO procedure detailed in MSC.1/Circ.1608 which allows IMO Members sufficient time to review the proposal before the NCSR sub-committee meeting.



Assuming the Experts Group (NCSR) agrees to the removal of the Galloper Recommended Route i.e. no objections from any IMO member, the proposal will be submitted to the subsequent Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) 114 for ratification, expected in May 2028.

Once accepted by the MSC the removal of the Recommended Route will be in force within 6 months (by November 2028). The IMO will expect the Recommended Route to be respected until the ratification is in force.

Yours faithfully,



Offshore Renewables Lead UK Technical Services Navigation